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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Rick Rowe) Group Art Unit: 3713
)
Appl. No. : 09/965,908)
)
Filed : September 27, 2001)
)
For : **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR**
FUNDING AND AWARDING
BONUSES IN A GAMING
ENVIRONMENT)
)
Examiner : Michael W. O'Neill)

)

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all
marked attachments are being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first-class mail in
an envelope addressed to: Assistant
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.
20231, on

February 3, 2003

(Date)

R. Scott Weide, Reg. No. 37,755

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed November 4, 2002, with respect to the above-referenced application.

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the Abstract appearing at page 38 with:

A method and system are provided for awarding bonuses in a gaming environment. The

system includes gaming machines associated with a player tracking host and a bonus system host.

Each gaming machine has a player tracking device. In accordance with a method, a bonus is funded independently of specific wagers placed at the gaming machines. The bonus system host configures bonus event information which is presented via the player tracking devices of the gaming machines.